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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT

TOPIC Soviet Ammunition Depots

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

PREPARED 26 January 1951

REFERENCE

PAGES

REMARKS

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Altenhain Ammunition Depot.

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1. Trucks which passed through Trebsen (N 52/E 51) and proceeded toward the Altenhain (N 52/E 41) ammunition depot between 14 and 18 November were [redacted] on 14 November; [redacted] on 15 November; [redacted] on 16 November; and [redacted] on 18 November. (1)

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2. Truck [redacted], driven by a soldier who wore artillery insignia, hauled garbage to a place near Altenhain and returned to the ammunition depot. (2)

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Hohenleipisch Ammunition Depot.

3. [redacted] a Volkspolizei guard detachment were quartered in the Hohenleipisch (N 52/A 03) ammunition depot. [redacted] the Soviet unit totaled about 1,000 men and [redacted] Soviet ammunition and former German ammunition was being cleaned and stored at the depot. Activities in the depot were allegedly more intensive than at the time when it was under German administration. Incoming and outgoing ammunition was shipped by rail. (4)

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Toepchin Ammunition Depot.

4. Between 13 and 25 November it was observed that the ammunition which arrived at the Toepchin (N 53/Z 21) ammunition depot from other depots was inspected, cleaned, packed, and loaded. No ammunition was being manufactured there. The personnel at the depot worked in one shift of 8 to 9 hours daily and were divided into the Pani work group consisting of about 100 men and women, and the Marinko work group consisting of about 30 men and women.
5. Between 13 and 18 November, two 18-man crews of the Pani group were engaged in the cleaning and packing of artillery ammunition, two shells being packed in one box.

The daily output per crew was 100 shells. The ammunition packed in boxes was trucked to bunkers near Spurbendorf (N 53/Z 72) and stored there. Between 20 and 25 November, 900 shells of 100 to 120 mm caliber, one shell being about 60 cm long and weighing allegedly 45 kg, were cleaned and packed into 300 boxes by the two labor crews. The packed ammunition was stored in sheds, presumably for early shipment.

this group had been engaged in the overhauling of rocket launchers. (5)

6. Between 13 and 18 November, no shipments of ammunition arrived at, or were dispatched from, the Toepchin depot by rail. (6)
7. Between 4 November and 2 December, the Toepchin depot was stocked to capacity with ammunition. Most of the stocks allegedly were artillery, antiaircraft, and tank ammunition, with only relatively small amounts of infantry ammunition.

8. Rail shipments of ammunition which arrived at the Toepchin depot, between 5 and 25 November included two boxcars from Pfaffendorf on 5 November; six boxcars from Altengrabow on 13 November; and five boxcars from Wulkow on 24 November.

9. No rail shipments were dispatched from the Toepchin depot between 4 and 17 November. Two shipments of 10 cars each, were dispatched from the depot, to Kuestrin-Kietz; and eight boxcars, to Guben on 25 November. the ammunition dispatched on 18 and 25 November was consigned to destinations outside the Soviet Zone of Germany. On 1 December, a total of 37 boxcars, were dispatched from the depot to Kuestrin-Kietz, to be redispached abroad. Between 18 November and 2 December, no west-bound shipments left the Toepchin depot. (7)

Wilmersdorf Ammunition Depot.

10. On 19 November, the Wilmersdorf (N 53/V 32) railroad cars for the shipments of 120 tons of ammunition to Wulkow for and for the shipment of 180 tons of ammunition to Roederau for The ammunition was scheduled for shipment on 20 November. (8)
11. Between 20 November and 2 December the personnel of the Wilmersdorf depot included 30 Soviet officers and civilian officials, about 400 NCOs and EM, and 100 German workmen. The depot commandant was Colonel Madrenkov, (fnu). (9)
12. Rail shipments which were dispatched from the Wilmersdorf depot between 28 and 30 November included:

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Shipment</u>	
28 November	eleven boxcars with 164 tons of Soviet tank ammunition; [redacted]	50X1-HUM
30 November	Ten boxcars with 150 tons of Soviet tank ammunition; [redacted]	50X1-HUM
30 November	Eight boxcars with 120 tons of Soviet aircraft ammunition; [redacted]	50X1-HUM

The destination of these shipments was [redacted] Juben-border. Before and after loading, the boxcars had to be examined by a technical inspector for their mechanical condition. Each of the three trains had a command car, occupied by one officer and six EM, and two escort cars, each of which was also occupied by one officer and six EM. (10) On 2 December, Unit [redacted] was notified that a heavy shipment was en route to the depot from Frankfurt/Oder-border. (11)

Mulkow Ammunition Depot.

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13. On 17 November, it was observed that 15 closed boxcars were coupled to the regular passenger train running on the Herzberg-Altruppin-Neuruppin line. When the train stopped in Neuruppin a total of eight officers wearing golden epaulets with red stripes disembarked from the boxcars, through the open door of one of which boxes were seen. [redacted] the box- 50X1-HUM cars were loaded with ammunition, and [redacted] such shipments were coupled to the regular passenger train in Mulkow (N 53/2 49) almost every second day. (12)

Comments.

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- (1) The information confirms the Eighth Gds Army ammunition depot in Altenhain, a large installation of the former German Army. Four of the trucks belonged to the 8th Gds Mecz Div of the First G's Mecz Army, one to the 21st Gds Mecz Div of the Eighth Gds Army, one to a headquarters unit of the Eighth Gds Army, and one to the SSC.
- (2) The truck belonged to a headquarters unit of the Eighth Gds Army.
- (3) [redacted] belongs to the Hq 57th Gds Itz Rifle Div and [redacted] to the Division's 174th Gds Itz Rifle Regt.
- (4) The report confirms the Soviet ammunition depot in the former German AF installation in Hohenleipisch. [redacted] during the last quarter of 1950, some shipments of ammunition arrived in Hohenleipisch from the U.S.S.R., and [redacted] some shipments were dispatched from Hohenleipisch to Toepechin. [redacted]
- (5) [redacted] The report provides additional details on the large Soviet ammunition depot in Toepechin, formerly a German Army installation. [redacted]
- (6) Reports on rail movements also did not indicate any incoming and outgoing shipments of ammunition during the period of 13 to 18 November. 50X1-HUM
- (7) [redacted] The incoming shipments reported came from other Soviet ammunition depots in the Soviet zone of Germany. [redacted] belongs to the Toepechin ammunition depot. The outgoing shipments of ammunition probably ran to the U.S.S.R. via the border crossing points of Kuestrin-Kietz and Juben which are used for Soviet transit traffic. [redacted]

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(8)

- (9) The information confirms the large Soviet ammunition depot in the former German AF installation of Wilmersdorf, which is also known as the Lamitsch or Pfaffendorf depot.

(10)

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(11)

- (12) The information confirms the large ammunition depot of the Second Gds Meez Army in the former German Army installation at Wulkow. The boxcars coupled to regular trains were probably incoming shipments of ammunition from the U.S.S.R., which arrived in the Soviet zone of Germany from Brest Litovsk via Frankfurt/Oder on 7 and 8 November, and 8 and 13 December.

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